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DATE: April 14, 2003

TO: Examiner Richard D. Lovering - USPTO

FROM: Christopher M. Humphrey

In re: Bentley *et al.*

Appl No.: 10/071,469

Filed: February 8, 2002

For: HETEROBIFUNCTIONAL POLY(ETHYLENE GLYCOL) DERIVATIVES
AND METHODS FOR THEIR PREPARATION

Confirmation No.: 1045

Group Art Unit: 1712

Examiner: Lovering, Richard D.

Please see the attached Response to Restriction Requirement (2 pages) in reference to the above-identified application.

NO. OF PAGES:
(Including cover page)

3

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FAX NUMBER: 1-703-872-9310

CLIENT/MATTER: 034848/234789

REQUESTED BY: Christopher M. Humphrey, Ext.
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VOICE NUMBER: 1-703-308-0443

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Attorney's Docket No. 034848/234789

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Bentley *et al.* Confirmation No.: 1045
Appl No.: 10/071,469 Group Art Unit: 1712
Filed: February 8, 2002 Examiner: Lovering, Richard D.
For: HETEROBIFUNCTIONAL POLY(ETHYLENE GLYCOL) DERIVATIVES
AND METHODS FOR THEIR PREPARATION

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

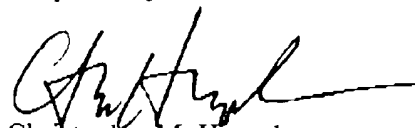
This is in response to the Office Action dated March 27, 2003, in which the Examiner has required restriction between Group I, namely Claims 1-30, and Group II, namely Claims 31-50. Applicants hereby provisionally elect with traverse to prosecute the claims of Group I (Claims 1-30 drawn to a polymer composition) and expressly reserve the right to file divisional applications or take such other appropriate measures deemed necessary to protect the inventions in the remaining claims.

With regard to species election, Applicants elect poly(alkylene oxides). As noted by the Examiner, Claims 1-2, 5-11, 16-17, and 20-26 are generic. Claims 1-30 read on the elected species.

Should the Examiner have further questions or comments with respect to examination of this case, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned so that further examination of this application can be expedited.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those, which may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,

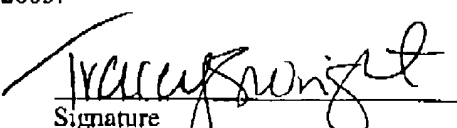


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In re: Bentley *et al.*
Appl No.: 10/071,469
Filed: February 8, 2002
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<input type="checkbox"/> deposited with the United States Postal service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on April 14, 2003. _____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office at 1-703-872-9310, on April 14, 2003.  _____ Signature Tracey S. Wright

RTA 2135222v1